

## CLAIMS:

1. A method of extracting a fingerprint from a multimedia signal, comprising the steps of:

- extracting (12,13) a set of robust perceptual features from the multimedia signal;
- subjecting (15) the extracted set of features to a Fourier-Mellin transform;
- 5 - converting (16,19) the transformed set of features into a sequence constituting the fingerprint.

2. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said converting step includes converting (16,ABS) the magnitudes of the Fourier-Mellin transform.

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3. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said converting step includes converting (16, $\Delta\phi$ ) the derivative of the phase of the Fourier-Mellin transform.

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4. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the multimedia signal is an audio signal and said Fourier-Mellin transform includes a one-dimensional log mapping process being applied to the set of perceptual features.

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5. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the multimedia signal is an image or video signal and said Fourier-Mellin transform includes a two-dimensional log-polar mapping process being applied to the set of perceptual features.

6. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the multimedia signal is an image or video signal and said Fourier-Mellin transform includes a two-dimensional log-log mapping process being applied to the set of perceptual features.

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7. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said extracting step includes normalization of the set of perceptual features.

8. An apparatus for extracting a fingerprint from a multimedia signal, comprising:

- means (12,13) for extracting a set of robust perceptual features from the multimedia signal;
- 5 - means (15) for subjecting the extracted set of features to a Fourier-Mellin transform;
- means (16,19) for converting the transformed set of features into a sequence constituting the fingerprint.